

THE DISPENSARY PROBE.

WITNESSES APPEARING BEFORE LEGISLATIVE BOARD DIS-CREDIT INSINUATIONS.

Members of Committee for Third Time Request Chief Executive to Give Testimony—Several Witnesses Called Yesterday—To Meet Next on April 3.

Columbia, March 22.—More than a score of witnesses have appeared before the legislative committee named to investigate the affairs of the State dispensary and not one charge or insinuation made by Gov. Blease as to wrong doing on the part of Attorney General Lyon and the members of the Ansel commission has been substantiated. The questions contained in message number 4, sent to the general assembly in 1911, and which contained the charges and insinuations have been asked every witness appearing and in practically every case a flat denial is given. Practically every witness called has paid a high tribute to the ability and honesty of the members of the Ansel commission and Attorney General Lyon.

The committee yesterday took official notice of the statement by the governor that the body was trying to apply the "whitewash" when a statement was issued. The committee stated that every effort was being made to bring out the true conditions and that suggestions from any citizen of the State as to the investigation would be gladly received. The committee called the attention of the governor to the fact that he had been given opportunity to appear and tell what he knew of the affairs of the dispensary, but that he had refused to do so.

Members of the committee said yesterday that any information as to the investigation would be welcomed from any citizen in the State and that it was the desire of each member to make a careful and searching investigation of all matters referred to in the message of the governor.

The committee adjourned yesterday afternoon to meet again on April 3 when several witnesses will appear and give testimony. The names of the witnesses have not been announced. It is very probable that the members of the Blease winding-up commission will be called to testify at the next meeting.

The committee resumed its session at the State house yesterday. A number of witnesses were called to give testimony. All members of the committee were present except Senator Clifton of Sumter, who was detained on account of a case in court. The various charges by the governor were gone into fully with the witnesses appearing and not one charge was substantiated.

Among the witnesses appearing yesterday were G. P. Edmunds, former editor of the Fairfield News of Ridgeway; B. L. Abney, well known attorney of Columbia and associate with Attorney General Lyon in the prosecution of several cases; W. J. Johnson, senator from Fairfield county; W. O. Tatum, former commissioner of the State dispensary, and Henry Samuels, a former whiskey agent of Chester.

The governor in his special message virtually charged that James S. Farnum of Charleston had paid more than \$5,000 when he pleaded guilty on the charge of giving rebates and was fined that amount in the Richland court. The inference was drawn by the governor that an additional amount was paid to Attorney General Lyon.

This insinuation was not substantiated by the witnesses appearing yesterday.

G. P. Edmunds was the first witness called at the morning session of the committee. He denied that he had made the statements editorially in the Fairfield News of Ridgeway to the effect that James S. Farnum had paid \$45,000 additional for his immunity. Mr. Edmunds is teller of a bank at Ridgeway and formerly editor of the Ridgeway News. He said that H. D. Rantin, a former editor of the paper was unfriendly to the work of the dispensary investigating committee.

R. L. Abney, a well known attorney of Columbia, was the second witness of the day. He was questioned by the committee as to his relations to the James S. Farnum case.

"Do you know of any other money Mr. Farnum paid to Attorney General Lyon or anyone else in addition to the \$5,000 fine when he pleaded guilty?"

"None whatever," replied the witness.

He told of his connection with Attorney General Lyon in the prosecution of James S. Farnum and reiterated that no money had ever been paid in addition to the fine of \$5,000.

Mr. Abney said in reply to the committee that insofar as he was informed of the agreement with T. B. Felder that he would consider the

contract reasonable. He said that he now represented the Blease commission in the Richland Distilling company case, and that a settlement was pending. He said that the Blacks of Macon had already paid \$12,500, and that an additional \$12,500 was to be paid soon, when the case against them was not pressed.

He said that as he understood the Felder contract generally that he did not consider it unreasonable.

"Do you know of anything that would help the committee in going to the bottom and investigating all of the charges in message No. 4?"

In reply Mr. Abney said that he knew of no wrongdoing on the part of the old commission or Attorney General Lyon.

"What would you say as to the competency and honesty of the Ansel commission to wind up the affairs of the old dispensary?"

He said that they were thoroughly competent and honest, and were zealous to do their duty to the State.

He declared that he had no knowledge of Felder being favored with rebates and purchases.

Mr. Abney, in reply to questions, said that he did not see how the criminal prosecutions could have been more properly or vigorously handled. He was associated with Attorney General Lyon in the prosecution of several cases.

Henry Samuels of Chester was called by the committee. He said that he sold whiskey to the State dispensary. He told of the houses that he represented in South Carolina. He said that in making sales to the dispensary he did all of his business through J. B. Wylie.

Samuels told of receiving money from his whiskey firms and paying Wylie for securing business. He thought that he had paid Wylie between \$5,000 and \$7,000. Samuels told of how the checks were passed. He was a whiskey agent when Wylie, Black and Rawlinson were on the board.

Samuels said that he knew of no money paid Attorney General Lyon by J. B. Wylie for immunity. Samuels was asked many questions by the committee as to the scale of rebates paid by the whiskey houses. He told of the moneys received. He said he always divided his share of the graft with Wylie.

Sensor W. J. Johnson was questioned as to a statement alleged to have appeared in the Fairfield News to the effect that Farnum had paid more than \$5,000 for his freedom.

He said that he did not remember such a statement in The News, but said that he had heard some rumor to that effect and that he had read in some newspaper that Farnum had paid more. He did not recall the details of the rumor. Senator Johnson is a resident of Ridgeway and owns some stock of The News. He said that he had criticized the Ansel commission on the floor of the senate.

He said that he had based his criticism on the fees to the attorneys for the commission, principally T. B. Felder. "What do you think of the Blease commission paying 50 per cent, as a fee on claims collected to B. L. Abney?"

"I think, with all due respect to him, that it is unreasonable," said the speaker. He was asked in this connection if he had heard the testimony of B. L. Abney. Mr. Johnson said that he had never discussed message No. 4 with the governor.

Sensor Johnson was questioned by the committee as to what would have been a just fee. He was forced to admit that he did not know much about dispensary affairs, but said that he thought 10 per cent would have been enough. It was pointed out to Senator Johnson that Felder received 10 per cent on "line accounts," and 50 per cent on "dead accounts." He thought it unreasonable to pay any man 50 per cent on any account considered "dead."

Sensor Johnson said that he knew several members of the Ansel commission. "I have always regarded Dr. Murray as a high-toned, honorable and competent gentleman," said the witness. He also paid a tribute to J. Steele Brice, a member of the Ansel commission. These men were charged with incompetency and graft by the governor. He thought Dr. Murray one of the best business men in the State.

W. O. Tatum, former commissioner of the State dispensary, was called by the committee. He explained the duties of the commissioner. He said that he had no connection whatever with the purchasing of whiskey by the board of control. He said that he was under bond of \$75,000 for the performance of his duty.

Tatum told of the large orders made by the board of control. He said that he always accepted the shipments so long as he had room at the State dispensary. He said that he protested against the large shipments.

He declared that it was his policy to put the dispensary on a higher plane and that he had never heard of or did not know of any graft.

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DANGER OF MOB LAW.

WARRENVILLE MEN TRIED TO LYNCH INNOCENT MAN.

After Exciting Experiences Accused Man Was Landed in Aiken Jail, Released in Afternoon.

Aiken, March 21.—Grover Brown, Southern railway agent at Warrentown, in this county, narrowly escaped a mob of infuriated men who made a desperate search for him at Warrentown last night, was rushed to Augusta for safety, and this morning was brought to Aiken and placed in jail, charged with assault on a young married woman of Warrentown. Today Mr. Brown was released from custody, the charges against him being dropped.

Mr. Brown, who is a young married man and a member of a well-known and highly-respected family of Aiken county, stoutly protests his innocence.

But for the timely action of Magistrate Craig of Warrentown Mr. Brown would have fallen into the hands of the mob, which, composed, it is said, of a score or more of men, made a desperate search for him, battering down the doors of two empty box cars which are in use at Warrentown for a station since the depot building was recently destroyed by fire, and scouring the town to find him. Only 20 minutes before the mob arrived Magistrate Craig, fearing trouble, had boarded a trolley car for Augusta, carrying with him the station agent, who he had in custody.

The magistrate spent the night in Augusta with the prisoner and got into communication with Sheriff Rabin of Aiken county; and this morning the sheriff and Rural Policemen Busbee and Samuels went to Langley, the station beyond Warrentown, to meet the train on which Magistrate Craig and Brown were coming to Aiken. The officers took the precaution to guard against any possibility of the mob boarding the train and taking their prisoner when it passed Warrentown. There was no demonstration when the train stopped at Warrentown.

So serious did the county officers consider the situation, however, that after Mr. Brown was placed in jail this morning, Magistrate Craig's demand that he be sent back to Warrentown today for a preliminary hearing was denied. It was feared that further trouble might arise should Mr. Brown be sent back to Warrentown at this time.

Mr. Brown protested that he was being persecuted and stated that when the train arrived at Warrentown last night it was after dark, and the woman who accused him alighted with a number of bundles; that he merely offered to assist her across the car tracks and that as he did so she screamed and ran away from him.

Mr. Brown's friends in Aiken all believe in his innocence. Mr. Brown was released from jail this afternoon and charges against him were dropped. It is said that this followed payment by him of \$15 to the husband of the young woman.

PAYS \$100,000 RANSOM

Money Sent in Time to Prevent Mutilation of Boy.

Shanghai, March 20.—By paying \$100,000 to brigands Sheng Kung Pao, known as the Chinese Rockefeller and the richest man in the ancient nation, today ransomed his only son, kidnapped last week.

The money was paid in time to prevent the mutilation of the boy, the bandits having written that for each day the payment of the tribute was delayed they would amputate a member and send it to the father, beginning with the ears. Officials here claim that the general mutiny is suppressed and that from now on the situation throughout the country can be expected to become quieter. The warships now in Chinese waters, it is asserted, are amply sufficient to protect all foreigners.

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions, and financially able to carry out any obligations made by his firm. Walling, Kimball & Marvin, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price, 75c per bottle. Sold by all druggists. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

"What would you say of the management of the affairs of winding up the dispensary?"

In reply Tatum said that Dr. Murray had done everything possible to complete the work in a business-like manner and to the best interests of the people of the State. He said that the business ability of Dr. Murray was recognized.

NEGROES ATTEMPT BLACKMAIL.

Charged That Man and Woman Sent Threatening Letter Through the Mail.

Orangeburg, March 21.—Warrants were issued today by A. A. Brantley, United States commissioner, for two negroes, one woman named Mag Stroman and a negro man by the name of Donaldson, charging the defendants with using the mails for purposes of sending threatening blackmail letters. It is stated that K. E. Phillips, who resides near Norway, received a letter written by Mag Stroman, at the instigation of the negro Donaldson, threatening Mr. Phillips' life. The negro was offended because she was not elected school teacher for a school in that district.

NEGRO CONVICT LYNCHED.

Strung Up to Tree for Murder of Guard Near Cochran, Ga.

Cochran, Ga., March 21.—Homer Howell, a negro convict at work in a camp a mile outside of this town, was lynched this afternoon after he had killed one of the guards and attempted to shoot down two other guards.

Joseph Coody, 40 years old, married and the father of several children, was the guard who was shot.

Howell and 60 other men in the camp, it is claimed, had plotted to make a get-away this afternoon. When Howell had a good chance he felled Coody with a shovel which he had been using in the road work. He then drew a revolver from the pocket of the dead guard and, before the other guards, who were close by, realized what had occurred, he leveled the revolver at one of them and began to shoot, turning quickly and continuing to fire at the other guards, one of whom was wounded. Both returned the fire and Howell fell with a bullet in his body after he had exhausted all the ammunition that he had.

There was some excitement in the camp at the time, but none of the other prisoners made any attempt to get away. One guard stood over the wounded negro while the other went to the side of Coody, who had not moved from the position where he fell. Coody was dead.

Authorities at Cochran were notified and assistance was sent to the guards to prevent any further outbreak. Then Howell was started on his way to Hawkinsville, where it had been planned to place him behind the bars and to prepare for his punishment.

Hawkinsville is ten miles away from the convict camp. Half way along the quiet road a mob of 30 men stopped the rig in which Howell was being conveyed to Hawkinsville and commanded that he be turned over to them.

The deputies who had the prisoner attempted to get away by lashing their horse, but one of the members of the mob, who held a revolver in one hand, grasped the bridle of the horse and then the negro was dragged from the carriage.

Howell was quickly strung up to a pole at the roadside and his body was riddled with bullets. The deputies returned to Cochran and told what had occurred.

Howell had been considered a bad negro and the authorities were aware of this. He had been sent up a few days ago from Pinleyson, in the lower part of Pulaski county, on a charge of horse stealing.

FERTILIZER MOVEMENT.

With the Improvement of the Roads, the Stuff Will Be Shipped Lively.

Charleston Post.

The marked falling off in the amount of fertilizers shipped out of Charleston was today ascribed to the wet roads of the past few weeks and just as soon as the weather clears up and the roads get in good form the shipments will assume a lively proportion.

It is true that to date the shipments this season are about 50 per cent short of last year, but the fertilizer manufacturers said that by the end of the season it will be 80 per cent, if not more. When traveling men can not get over the roads in buggies to sell fertilizers, it is easy to see, he explained, that fertilizers can not be hauled, which explains the slow shipments of the season.

You can say goodbye to constipation with a clear conscience if you use Chamberlain's Tablets. Many have been permanently cured by their use. For sale by all dealers.

Life is only one darned sock after another.—Charleston Post.

You judge a man not by what he promises to do, but by what he has done. That is the only true test. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy judged by this standard has no superior. People everywhere speak of it in the highest terms of praise. For sale by all dealers.

THE NORTHWESTERN SCHEDULE

RAILROAD COMMISSION DECIDES TO RE-OPEN MATTER.

Hearing to Be Held to Take Testimony and Hear Protests from Patrons on May 8th, in Sumter.

As a result of the dissatisfaction aroused by the change in the schedule of trains on the Northwestern Railroad and in response to protests filed with the Railroad Commission, that body has decided to re-open the matter and will hold a special meeting in this city on May 8th to hear interested parties. This decision was reached at the last regular meeting, March 20th.

Notice of the special meeting is contained in the following letter received by Secretary Snell of the Chamber of Commerce:

Columbia, March 21, 1912.
In re Train Service, N. W. R. R. of S. C.

Mr. Thos. Wilson, President,
Northwestern Railroad Co., of S. C.,
Camden, S. C.

Mr. W. R. Eve, Jr., Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Camden, S. C.

Mr. A. V. Snell, Secretary Chamber of Commerce, Sumter, S. C.

Mr. J. J. Cantey, Summerton, S. C.

Mr. T. A. Bradley, Rembert, S. C.

Mr. C. J. Gaillard, Dalzell, S. C.

Mr. J. H. Levy, Sumter, S. C.

Mr. C. M. Emanuel, Borden, S. C.

Gentlemen: The Commission directs me to inform you that at its regular meeting on yesterday it was decided to hold a hearing in regard to train schedule of Northwestern Railroad of South Carolina, at Sumter, S. C., on Wednesday, May 8th, 1912, at 10 o'clock A. M., for the purpose of taking testimony and evidence in above matter. You are hereby notified to be present.

Yours very truly
J. P. DABBY,
Secretary.

New Senatorial Attitude.

Senator Johnathan Bourne has started something new in his idea of seeking re-election to the Senate. He is acting upon the theory that a candidate for public office should leave his candidacy to the people and not worry about it. He announces that while he is a candidate for re-election to the Senate he will not go to Oregon to conduct a campaign. Neither will he write any letters nor make any speeches, but will trust everything to the people.

Senator Bourne knows he is taking chances in adopting that course, for in his confidential moods he has admitted that his theory may be risky so far as his political fortunes are concerned. However, he insists in having a fair test of it, even though a Mr. Ben Snelling, a prominent business man of Portland, is yearning for the Senatorship. The Hon. Ben is even going up and down the land charging that Senator Bourne is interested in New England cotton mills and is little interested in Oregon. At the same time the Senator insists that the people are the sovereigns and can do as they please about it.—Wilmington Star.

Many sufferers from rheumatism have been surprised and delighted with the prompt relief afforded by applying Chamberlain's Liniment. Not one case of rheumatism in ten requires any internal treatment whatever. This liniment is for sale by all dealers.

The Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch observes: "Roosevelt states that he has a speech prepared, but has not decided where to deliver it. As a matter of fact, there are only a few places left." Why not tender him the Devil's Den in Carroll county?—Wilmington Star.

C. A. Glossner, 24 Ontario St., Rochester, N. Y., has recovered from a long and severe attack of kidney trouble, his cure being due to Foley Kidney Pills. After detailing his case, he says: "I am only sorry I did not learn sooner of Foley Kidney Pills. In a few days' time my backache completely left me and I felt greatly improved. My kidneys became stronger, dizzy spells left me and I was no longer annoyed at night. I feel 100 per cent better since using Foley Kidney Pills." Sibert's Drug Store.

INDIGESTION
Kidney and Bladder Troubles and Nervous Debility Yield Readily and Quickly to Treatment with Haggard's Specific Tablets

"A SURE CURE"

Haggard Specific Co., Atlanta, Ga.
Gentlemen—I have used your tablets for indigestion and have found them to be just what I needed for them. I have tried several remedies, but did not get any relief until I tried your tablets. I would cheerfully recommend your tablets as a sure cure for indigestion. Yours truly,
S. H. ORLEN, M. D.

HAGGARD'S SPECIFIC TABLETS put you on the road to health, make rich, red blood, feed your wasted tissues and put new life, vim and vigor into you. Take Haggard's Specific Tablets. Be a man! If you are a woman who is heir to the ill of her sex, this remedy will alleviate your sufferings. Try a box at our risk. If it does not benefit you, your money will be cheerfully refunded. 50c a box.

Sold By DeLorme's Pharmacy, Sumter, S. C.

MORSE GETS WELL QUICK.

Ex-Banker and Ex-Convict Will Tour Riviera and Then Visit Paris, France.

Naples, March 20.—Charles W. Morse, who came to Italy with his wife in search of health, seems to have found it. He has been in Naples for some time, and not only looks well, but is in the best of spirits.

He and Mrs. Morse are now roaming about Italy, with no particular objective points; simply going to any place that strikes their fancy and remaining until the spirit moves them to seek another resort.

The beautiful weather and the balmy airs of the Mediterranean have so improved Mr. Morse that those who saw him when he left New York on February 14 would hardly recognize him.

Within a short time it is expected Mr. Morse will go to Paris, but he probably will spend some time on the Riviera first. The length of his stay along the Mediterranean is not yet decided.

While on the steamer on his way here Mr. Morse several times said he wanted to be back "in the game," and it seems certain that as soon as his health will permit he will return to New York and get back into Wall street.

Glorious News

comes from Dr. T. J. Curtiss, Dwight, Kan. He writes: "I not only have cured bad cases of eczema in my patients with Electric Bitters, but also cured myself by them of the same disease. I feel sure they will benefit any case of eczema. This shows what thousands have proved, that Electric Bitters is a most effective blood purifier. Its an excellent remedy for eczema, tetter, salt rheum, ulcers, boils and running sores. It stimulates liver, kidney and bowels, expels poisons, helps digestion, builds up the strength. Price 50 cents. Satisfaction guaranteed by Sibert's Drug Store.

A bride is "given away" but not for very long. She does not regard herself as a present but considers herself the prize that is priceless.—Wilmington Star.

Repels Attack of Death.

"Five years ago two doctors told me I had only two years to live." This startling statement was made by Stillman Green, Malachite, Col. "They told me I would die with consumption. It was up to me then to try the best lung medicine and I began to use Dr. King's New Discovery. It was well I did, for today I am working and believe I owe my life to this great throat and lung cure that has cheated the grave of another victim." Its folly to suffer with coughs, colds or other throat and lung troubles now. Take the cure that's safest. Price 50 cents and \$1.00. Trial bottle free at Sibert's Drug Store.

Accidents Will Happen

And when they do—they hurt.

HUNT'S LIGHTNING OIL is the one instantaneous relief and cure for all wounds, bruises, sores, cuts, sprains and abrasions of the skin. It forms an artificial skin covering, excludes the air instantly, stops pain at once. There are many oils, but none like HUNT'S. The action is different, and the effect as well.

HUNT'S LIGHTNING OIL

Always have it in the house. Take it with you when you travel—you never can tell when HUNT'S LIGHTNING OIL may be most needed. 25cts and 50cts bottles.

For Sale by Sibert's Drug Store. A. B. Richards Medicine Co. Sherman, Texas.

Many a Man

Is a critic because he likes to be contrary. You can go contrary to the wishes of your friends and neighbors and sometimes get the best of them; but go contrary to the dictates of nature and you always get the worst of it.

If Nature Says Spectacles,

Why, Spectacles it must be. Nature won't accept just Spectacles though; they must be right Spectacles. We can give the kind nature demands, and our prices are right, too. Graduate optician in charge.

W. A. Thompson,
Jeweler and Optician.